

General Provisions Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 536 national wildlife refuges. The primary objective of a national wildlife refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation and protection of all species of wildlife. The harvest of surplus animals is one tool used to manage wildlife populations. Carefully managed hunts maintain wildlife populations at a level compatible with the environment, provide wholesome recreational opportunities and permit the use of a valuable renewable resource.

Public hunting and fishing on Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge is currently permitted on approximately 7,000 acres. All refuge property is clearly marked on the outside boundary with yellow paint hash marks and boundary signs. Some landowners adjacent to the refuge may mark their boundary with blue paint hash marks and no trespassing signs.

General Hunt Regulations All Refuge specific regulations apply to hunting and fishing on the Clarks River NWR. The regulations listed below include but are not limited to the federal regulations governing hunting on wildlife refuge areas set forth in Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Kentucky State Regulations and Refuge specific regulations. The following regulations apply to all seasons and species.

To report a violation contact 1/800/874 7217 and leave a detailed message of the violation and location. Information may be reported anonymously or with a return telephone number.

Each hunter or fisherman must have in possession a current signed copy of the Clarks River National

Wildlife Refuge Hunting/Fishing Permit while participating in hunting or fishing activities on the refuge.

The use of All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) are prohibited on all refuge property. Clarks River NWR does offer an access trail for persons with disabilities. For information on the Blizzard Pond Access Trail contact the Refuge office at 270/527 5770.

The possession or use of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances while hunting is prohibited.

No overnight camping is allowed.

Fires are prohibited on refuge property.

Licensed vehicles are permitted on open graveled roadways only. The abandoned railroad tracks are not considered an open graveled roadway. **Vehicles blocking refuge gates will be towed.**

Bicycles are permitted on open roads, gated roads, and portions of the abandoned railroad that belong to Clarks River NWR.

The refuge is a day use area only with the exception of legal hunting activities.

Target practice is prohibited on refuge property.

Firearms are not permitted unless used in authorized hunting activity. Firearms must be unloaded and cased or dismantled while being transported in a vehicle or boat within the boundaries of the refuge or along right-of-way for public or private roads within the refuge.

The following regulations are season or species specific.

Hunters under age 16 must be supervised by an adult 21 years of age or older, and must remain in sight and normal voice contact with the adult. On small game hunts the adult may supervise no more than two youths, on big game hunts no more than one youth.

Hunter orange must be worn as required by state regulations. **Caution:** other non-hunting members of the public may be in the areas and not wearing hunter orange during hunting seasons.

Mules and horses are prohibited on all refuge hunts although recreational horseback riding is permitted on refuge property.

In accepting this brochure, the hunter concedes the right of inspection of game bags, hunting coats, etc., as provided by state law, to the Refuge Officers.

Hunting of Migratory Game Birds, including geese, ducks, coots, and morning doves is permitted on designated areas of the refuge, subject to the following:

Hunting of waterfowl will cease at 2:00 p.m. each day of open season.

Only portable or temporary blinds may be used.

Portable or temporary blinds and decoys must be removed from the refuge following each day's hunt.

Hunters will possess and use, while in the field, only nontoxic shot while hunting waterfowl.

Upland Game Hunting, including bobcat and coyote, is permitted on designated areas of the refuge subject to the following:



Shotguns are limited to no larger than 10 gauge. All shotgun ammunition must meet legal shot size requirements for each species being hunted. The use of rifles or pistols on upland game is limited to rimfire only, **including bobcat and coyote.**

The use of dogs to hunt upland game is permitted in accordance with Kentucky statewide seasons and regulations. The running of dogs outside the hunting season for a particular species is permitted by special use permits only. For information on obtaining a special use permit for running dogs call the Refuge office at 270/527 5770.

Big Game Hunting of white-tailed deer and turkey is permitted on designated areas of the refuge and subject to the following:

No unauthorized person shall use or direct the rays of a spotlight or other artificial light, or automotive headlights for the purpose of spotting locating or taking any animal within the boundaries of the refuge or along right-of-way for public or private roads within the refuge.

It is unlawful to damage a tree or to hunt from a tree in which a metal object has been inserted (regardless of who inserted it).

It is unlawful to erect a permanent tree stand or hunt from any existing permanent tree stand. If a permanent tree stand is located on refuge property please notify the refuge office of its location. To contact the Refuge office call 270/ 527 5770.

Climbing and lock-on tree stands are permitted. Tree stands must be removed from trees when not in

Please respect the following signs



use. Tree stands left attached and unattended will be confiscated.

Safety belts are required at all times with the use of tree stands.

Hunting of deer or any other wildlife by the aid of or distributing any feed, salt or other minerals is prohibited.

Hunters may not hunt by organized deer drives of two or more hunters. The definition of drive is: the act of chasing, pursuing, disturbing or otherwise directing deer so as to make the animals more susceptible to harvest.

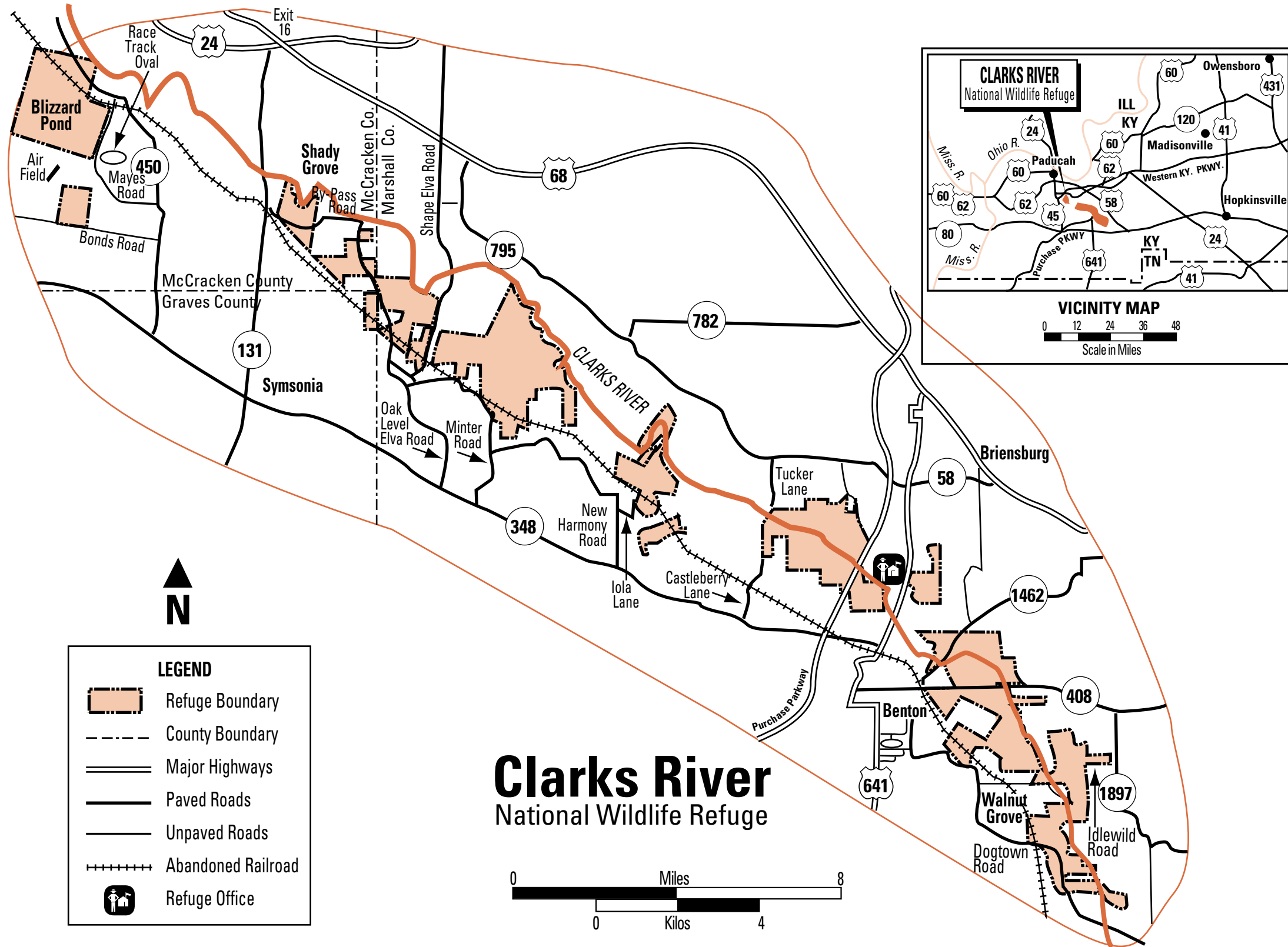
Sport Fishing is permitted on the refuge on designated areas of the refuge subject to Kentucky State regulations and the following:

The refuge is a day use area with the exception of legal fishing activities.

Millions of people visit national wildlife refuges each year. The impact of human activity, if not regulated, can degrade these wild lands. Signs help control recreational activities and respect private property while protecting natural resources on the refuge.

This sign and yellow paint clearly marks all refuge property. It is your responsibility to know where the property lines are and hunt within the boundaries.

This area is closed to all entry. No entering, hunting or sight-seeing is permitted. No roads or trails beyond this sign are open to the public.



Clarks River
National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 89
Benton, Kentucky 42025
270/527 5770
<http://ClarksRiver.fws.gov>
<http://southeast.fws.gov>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD

June 2002



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Clarks River

*National Wildlife Refuge
Hunting and Fishing
Regulations 2002-2003*



CELEBRATING A
CENTURY
of CONSERVATION

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Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge Hunting/ Fishing Brochure 2002-2003

Keep this signed brochure or signed permit card with you while hunting or fishing on refuge property. This brochure does not authorize you to hunt or fish on private land adjacent to refuge property.

When signed and in your possession, this portion of the brochure will serve as your permit, and an indication that you have read, fully understand and will comply with the special regulations of the permit. This permit is valid thru June 1, 2003.

Signature
(Valid only when signed)